

About The Air Pollution Control Program

The mission of the Department of Natural Resources' Air Pollution Control Program is "to maintain purity of the air resources of the state to protect the health, general welfare and physical property of the people, maximum employment and the full industrial development of the state." The program serves the public with technology, planning, enforcement, permitting, financial and information services to achieve this mission.

Technical Support

The program's staff looks at the quality of the air in Missouri using chemistry, meteorology, mathematics and computer modeling. Staff members research the sources and effects of air pollution, collecting and maintaining an annual inventory of sources that give off air pollution. In conjunction with the Department of Natural Resources' Environmental Services Program and four local agencies, the Air Pollution Control Program staff designs and coordinates an air-monitoring network and examines monitoring data. The network provides air quality data from more than 40 locations around the state. Using the monitoring data and other data on source emissions and the weather, the staff runs computer models of the atmosphere to predict air quality.

Planning

The program's staff develops rules and plans designed to protect and improve Missouri's air quality. Public participation is a vital part of the cooperative process of developing

guidelines and regulations. The staff works with businesses, federal, state and local government agencies, environmental groups and the public to exchange ideas and information on clean air issues with advisory groups, workgroups and workshops.

The staff works closely with EPA as part of the national effort to improve air quality through the Clean Air Act. The staff research and study complex environmental issues to develop air pollution control strategies that will allow Missouri's progress toward achieving and maintaining healthy air quality improvements. These air pollution control strategies are included in the **state implementation plan (SIP)** to control specific pollutants. The **Missouri Air Conservation Commission** (*see p. 31*) approves the **state implementation plan** and rule actions after they have gone through a public hearing process. When the **Missouri Air Conservation Commission** adopts rules, they become effective through publication in the *Missouri State Code of Regulations*. The **state implementation plan** and associated rules adopted by the **Missouri Air Conservation Commission** are submitted to EPA for inclusion in the federally approved state plan.

Permits

The program's staff reviews construction permit applications of new or modified emission sources to make sure that facilities minimize the release of air contaminants and will meet the requirements of the state and federal law and regulations.

Operating permit applications, similar to business licenses, are also received and issued. Operating permits staff identifies all the air pollution control requirements of a source of air pollution.

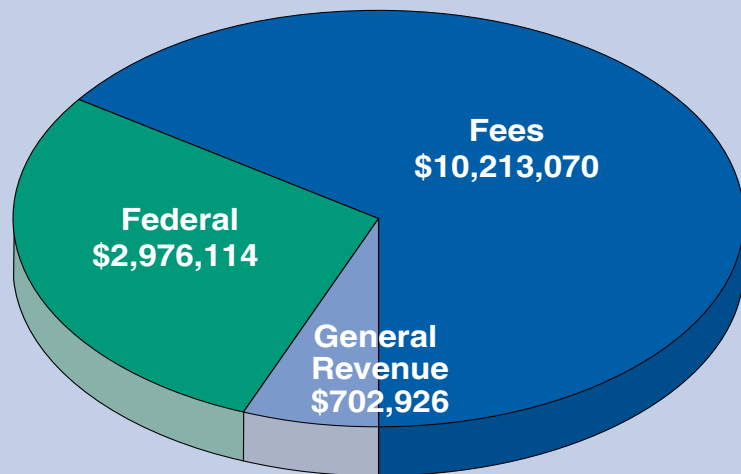
Enforcement

The program, through the department's regional offices, responds to complaints about air quality and help businesses comply with various federal, state and local rules. Staff conducts routine site inspections and oversees the testing of smokestacks, asbestos removal, gasoline vapor recovery equipment and other sources of air pollution. When a source violates an air quality requirement, the staff works with the facility to correct the problem and may take additional action, including the assessment of penalties necessary to obtain compliance with the requirement. Cases that cannot be resolved are referred to the Missouri Attorney General's office through the **Missouri Air Conservation Commission**.

Administration

The program's staff provides budgeting, procurement, public information and personnel services. The staff also provides liaisons for the **Missouri Air Conservation Commission**, EPA, the Missouri Department of Health, local air agencies in Kansas City, St. Louis, St. Louis County and Springfield, the American Lung Association and the news media.

2002 Revenue by Source



Total: \$13,892,110

2002 Revenue by Source

The Air Pollution Control Program receives funds from three sources: general tax revenue approved by the Missouri General Assembly, federal funds from EPA and four types of fees collected by the program. Since 1972, the program collected fees from businesses seeking permits to build new or modify existing emission sources. Since 1984, the state collected a fee to test the emissions of 1.2 million motor vehicles in the city of St. Louis and in Franklin, Jefferson, St. Charles and St. Louis counties. In 2000, an enhanced inspection program was initiated in all of these counties except Franklin, which still uses the basic test. Since 1993, the program collected an emission fee from air pollution sources under the Missouri Air Conservation Law. Since 1989, the program collected fees to

ensure the safe removal of asbestos; a cancer-causing substance of combined materials once used to insulate buildings. Funds received by the program are shown in the table above.

Local Agencies

A city or county may have its own air agency under two conditions: the city must be able to enforce its rules and its rules must be as strict as the state's. Local agencies issue permits, maintain their own monitoring networks and may enforce asbestos-removal laws. The local agencies are partially funded by EPA through the Department of Natural Resources. Four local governments in Missouri practice regional control over air pollution: Kansas City, St. Louis, St. Louis County and Springfield.